

MOST-FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT IN CUSTOMS MATTERS

Exchange of notes at Washington March 2, 1925

Estonian ratification notified to the United States August 1, 1925

Entered into force August 1, 1925

Modified by agreement of July 10 and 16, 1951¹

Treaty Series 722

The Secretary of State to the Estonian Minister

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, March 2, 1925

SIR:

I have the honor to make the following statement of my understanding of the agreement reached through recent conversations held at Washington on behalf of the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Esthonia with reference to the treatment which the United States shall accord to the commerce of Esthonia and which Esthonia shall accord to the commerce of the United States.

These conversations have disclosed a mutual understanding between the two Governments which is that, in respect to import, export and other duties and charges affecting commerce, as well as in respect to transit, warehousing and other facilities and the treatment of commercial travelers' samples, the United States will accord to Esthonia and Esthonia will accord to the United States, its territories and possessions, unconditional most-favored-nation treatment; and that in the matter of licensing or prohibitions of imports or exports, the United States and Esthonia, respectively, so far as they at any time maintain such a system, will accord to the commerce of the other treatment as favorable, with respect to commodities, valuations and quantities, as may be accorded to the commerce of any other country.

¹ In reply to a note of July 10, 1951, from the Secretary of State relative to "the various controls which the Government of the United States believes it is necessary or desirable to apply to trade between the United States and various areas under Soviet domination or control," the Acting Consul General of Estonia at New York, in a note dated July 16, 1951, said that he would have "no objection to the application to that trade [between the United States and Estonia] of such controls as the Government of the United States may consider appropriate."

It is understood that

No higher or other duties shall be imposed on the importation into or disposition in the United States, its territories or possessions, of any articles the produce or manufacture of Esthonia than are or shall be payable on like articles the produce or manufacture of any foreign country:

No higher or other duties shall be imposed on the importation into or disposition in Esthonia of any articles the produce or manufacture of the United States, its territories or possessions, than are or shall be payable on like articles the produce or manufacture of any foreign country:

Similarly, no higher or other duties shall be imposed in the United States, its territories or possessions, or in Esthonia on the exportation of any articles to the other or to any territory or possession of the other, than are payable on the exportation of like articles to any foreign country:

Every concession with respect to any duty, charge or regulation affecting commerce now accorded or that may hereafter be accorded by the United States or by Estonia, by law, proclamation, decree or commercial treaty or agreement, to any foreign country will become immediately applicable without request and without compensation to the commerce of Esthonia and of the United States and its territories and possessions, respectively.

Provided that this understanding does not relate to

(1) The treatment which the United States accords or may hereafter accord to the commerce of Cuba or any of the territories or possessions of the United States or the Panama Canal Zone, or to the treatment which is or may hereafter be accorded to the commerce of the United States with any of its territories or possessions or to the commerce of its territories or possessions with one another.

(2) The treatment which Esthonia accords or may hereafter accord to the commerce of Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, and/or to the states in custom or economic union with Esthonia, or to all of those states, so long as such special treatment is not accorded to any other state.

(3) Prohibitions or restrictions of a sanitary character or designed to protect human, animal or plant life or regulations for the enforcement of police or revenue laws.

The present arrangement shall become operative on the day when the ratification of the present note by the Esthonian Parliament will be notified to the Government of the United States and, unless sooner terminated by mutual agreement shall continue in force until thirty days after notice of the termination shall have been given by either party; but should either party be prevented by future action of its legislature from carrying out the terms of this arrangement, the obligations thereof shall thereupon lapse.

I shall be glad to have your confirmation of the accord thus reached.
Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

CHARLES E. HUGHES

Dr. A. PIIP
Minister of Esthonia

The Estonian Minister to the Secretary of State

ESTHONIAN LEGATION
Washington, March 2, 1925

SIR:

I have the honor to make the following statement of my understanding of the agreement reached through recent conversations held at Washington on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Esthonia and the Government of the United States with reference to the treatment which Esthonia shall accord to the commerce of the United States and which the United States shall accord to the commerce of Esthonia.

[For statement of understanding, see U.S. note, above.]

I shall be glad to have your confirmation of the accord thus reached.
Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

A. PIIP

His Excellency
CHARLES EVANS HUGHES
Secretary of State of the United States